

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting or reducing beta-amyloid protein formation, deposition or accumulation in a beta-amyloid protein disease in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide having a conformational similarity to a fragment of a laminin protein.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the conformational similarity is at least 70%.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the conformational similarity is at least 90%.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the polypeptide is synthesized to achieve said conformational similarity.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the beta-amyloid protein disease is Alzheimer's disease or Down's syndrome.

6-10. Withdrawn

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the laminin fragment includes at least one globular domain repeat within the laminin A chain or a fragment thereof.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the globular domain repeats include the peptide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 or a fragment thereof.

13-14. Withdrawn

15. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting or reducing beta-amyloid protein formation, deposition or accumulation in a patient, the method comprising: administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of human laminin, mouse laminin, SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO 4:, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO: 11, and fragments thereof.

16. Withdrawn
17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the therapeutically effective amount is a dosage between 0.01 $\mu$ g and about 100mg/kg body weight.
18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the therapeutically effective amount is a dosage between 10 $\mu$ g and about 50mg/kg body weight.
19. (New) A method for inhibiting or reducing beta-amyloid protein formation, deposition or accumulation in an environment, the method comprising: administering to the environment a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of human laminin, mouse laminin, SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO 4:, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO: 11, and fragments thereof.
20. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the polypeptide selected is taken from the 4<sup>th</sup> globular domain repeat of human A chain laminin.
21. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the polypeptide selected is taken from the 4<sup>th</sup> globular domain repeat of human A chain laminin.